Amendment and Response Serial No.: 10/691,117

Confirmation No.: 5330 Filed: October 21, 2003

For: SULFONATED STYRENE COPOLYMERS FOR MEDICAL USES

**Amendments to the Claims** 

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the above-

identified application:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling biological organisms on a porous

surface said method comprising forming a water-insoluble coating comprising at least one salt of

a polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel on the porous surface said porous surface is an

article selected from the group consisting of comprising a garment, a gas filter, a laboratory work

surface, a laboratory wipe, and a wound dressing.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein forming a coating

comprises coating the porous surface with the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel in acid

form and converting the acid form of the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel to the salt

form.

17. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the salt of the

polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel is an ammonium salt.

18-28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 15, wherein the polysulfonated

<u>block copolymer</u> hydrogel is a sulfonated styrene-ethylene-butylene-styrene triblock copolymer.

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31. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the coating additionally comprises a tetracycline.

32. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 31, wherein the tetracycline is doxycycline.

## 33. (Canceled)

- 34. **(Previously Presented)** The method according to claim 15, wherein the wound dressing comprises a substrate selected from the group consisting of a foam, a woven fabric, a knit fabric, and a nonwoven fabric.
- 35. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, wherein the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel comprises a polysulfonated poly(styrene-alkylene) polymer wherein alkylene segments of the polymer are an unsaturated hydrocarbon residue.
- 36. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein the unsaturated hydrocarbon residue adjoins styrene segments of the polysulfonated poly(styrene-alkylene) polymer.
- 37. **(Previously Presented)** A method according to claim 35, wherein the unsaturated hydrocarbon residue comprises repeat units selected from the group consisting of ethylene, propylene, isopropylene, butylene, isobutylene, hexylene, and combinations thereof.
- 38. **(Currently Amended)** A method according to claim 15, wherein the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel is blended with at least one non-sulfonated polymer.

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39. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling biological organisms on a porous surface said method comprising forming a water-insoluble coating comprising at least one salt of a polysulfonated <u>block copolymer</u> hydrogel on the porous surface said porous surface comprising paper, fabric, <u>or and a combination thereof.</u>

- 40. **(New)** A method for controlling biological organisms on a porous surface, the method comprising forming a water-insoluble coating on the porous surface, wherein the water-insoluble coating comprises at least one salt of a polysulfonated hydrogel that is not chemically crosslinked.
- 41. **(New)** The method of claim 40 wherein the porous surface is an article selected from the group consisting of a garment, a gas filter, a laboratory work surface, a laboratory wipe, and a wound dressing.
- 42. **(New)** The method of claim 40 wherein the porous surface comprises paper, fabric, or a combination thereof.
- 43. **(New)** The method of claim 40 wherein forming a coating comprises coating the porous surface with the polysulfonated hydrogel in acid form and converting the acid form of the polysulfonated hydrogel to the salt form.
- 44. **(New)** The method of claim 40 wherein the coating additionally comprises a tetracycline.
- 45. **(New)** The method of claim 40 wherein the polysulfonated hydrogel comprises a polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel.

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- 46. **(New)** The method of claim 45 wherein forming a coating comprises coating the porous surface with the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel in acid form and converting the acid form of the polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel to the salt form.
- 47. (New) The method of claim 45 wherein the coating additionally comprises a tetracycline.
- 48. **(New)** A method for controlling biological organisms on a porous surface, the method comprising forming a water-insoluble coating on the porous surface, the water insoluble coating comprising at least one salt of at least one polysulfonated block copolymer hydrogel blended with at least one non-sulfonated polymer, wherein the porous surface is an article selected from the group consisting of a garment, a gas filter, a laboratory work surface, a laboratory wipe, and a wound dressing.